

<http://www.christiantoday.com/article/iraqi.christians.too.scared.to.tell.whole.truth.about.violence/23283.htm>

Many citizens still do not understand the concept of democracy and vote for their group member rather than a candidate, he said.

Sleiman is in Washington DC this week to meet with members of the State Department and congressional leaders to discuss the persecuted Christian population in Iraq. He also plans to attend the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast in Washington on Friday.

Iraq is listed as a country of particular concern in the **US Commission on International Religious Freedom's (USCIRF)** 2009 Annual Report. Shea, an expert on religious freedom in Iraq, serves as a commissioner for USCIRF.